**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method of translating at least one quality of service (QoS) parameter related to a first cell-based transmission protocol from said first cell-based transmission protocol to a second transmission protocol for a data element being sent on a connection from a first cell-based communication network utilizing said first transmission protocol to a second communication network utilizing said second transmission protocol, said method comprising:

mapping said at least one QoS parameter to a class of service value for said connection; ~~and~~

mapping said class of service value and a drop precedence value of the data element to another parameter indicating a quality of service provisioning for said second transmission protocol;

converting said data element of said connection to a second data element associated with said second transmission protocol; and

incorporating said another parameter into said second data element for transmission of said second data element in the second network with the second transmission protocol. ~~, wherein said at least one QoS parameter includes at least one of a service category, cell loss ratio and cell delay variation.~~

2. (Previously Presented) A method of translating at least one QoS parameter as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least one QoS parameter further includes a priority rating for said data element.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A method of translating at least one QoS parameter as claimed in claim [[3]] 26, wherein ~~said at least one QoS parameter further indicates drop precedence and~~ said

another parameter indicates drop precedence for said second data element in said second communication network.

5. (Previously Presented) A method of translating at least one QoS parameter as claimed claim 4, wherein said second communication network is a MPLS network, said second transmission protocol is a MPLS transmission protocol and said second data element is a MPLS frame.

6. (Previously Presented) A method of translating at least one QoS parameter as claimed in claim 5, wherein said first communication network is an ATM network, said first transmission protocol is an ATM transmission protocol and each of said at least one first data element is an ATM cell.

7. (Previously Presented) A method of translating at least one QoS parameter as claimed in claim 6, wherein said MPLS frame is provided to said MPLS network for transmission through a label switched path and said another parameter is inserted in an experimental field of said MPLS frame.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A method of translating at least one QoS parameter as claimed in claim [[9]] 7, wherein said label switched path is an experimental inferred per hop behaviour label switched path (E-LSP).

11. (Currently Amended) A method of translating at least one QoS parameter as claimed in claim [[3]] 26, wherein said second communication network is a MPLS network, said second transmission protocol is a MPLS transmission protocol, said second data element is a MPLS ~~frame~~ frame, said first communication network is an ATM network, said first transmission protocol is an ATM transmission protocol, each of said at least one first data element is an ATM

cell, said second parameter indicates drop precedence for said ATM cell, said another transmission parameter indicates drop precedence for said MPLS frame, said MPLS frame is provided to said MPLS network for transmission through a label inferred per hop behaviour label switched path (L-LSP) and said another parameter is inserted in an experimental field of said MPLS frame.

12. (Currently Amended) A translation module of a network element, said translation module translating [[a]] at least one quality of service (QoS) parameter related to a first cell-based transmission protocol from said first cell-based transmission protocol to a second transmission protocol for a data element being sent on a connection from a first communication network utilizing said first transmission protocol to a second communication network utilizing said second transmission protocol, said network element connected to said first communication network and said second communication network, said network element receiving said data element from said first communication network and communicating said data element to said translation module, said network element transmitting said data element from said network element over said second communication network after translation of said at least one QoS parameter, said translation module comprising:

a first sub-module mapping said at least one QoS parameter to a class of service value for said connection; ~~and~~

a second sub-module mapping said class of service value and a drop precedence value of the data element to another transmission parameter indicating a quality of service provisioning for said second transmission protocol;

a conversion sub-module, said conversion sub-module:

converting said data element of said connection to a second data element associated with said second transmission protocol; and

incorporating said another transmission parameter into said second data element for transmission of said second data element in the second network with the second transmission protocol.

~~, wherein said at least one QoS parameter includes at least one of a service category, cell loss ratio and cell delay variation.~~

13. (Previously Presented) A translation module of a network element as claimed in claim 12, wherein said at least one QoS parameter further includes a priority rating for said data element.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A translation module of a network element as claimed in claim [[14]] 27, wherein ~~said at least one QoS parameter further indicates drop precedence and~~ said another transmission parameter indicates drop precedence for said second data element in said second communication network.

16. (Previously Presented) A translation module of a network element as claimed in claim 15, wherein said second communication network is a MPLS network, said second transmission protocol is a MPLS transmission protocol and said second data element is a MPLS frame.

17. (Previously Presented) A translation module of a network element as claimed in claim 16, wherein said first communication network is an ATM network, said first transmission protocol is an ATM transmission protocol and each of said at least one first data element is an ATM cell.

18. (Currently Amended) A translation module of a network element as claimed in claim 17, said translation module further comprising:

a MPLS card, said MPLS card containing said second sub-module and said conversion sub-module of said translation module; and

a control complex connected to said MPLS card, said control complex providing management for said network element, said control complex containing said first sub-module of said translation module[[;]] ,

wherein said network element includes an ATM card, said ATM card providing an interface for said ATM network, said ATM card receiving said at least one ATM cell from said ATM network and communicating said at least one ATM cell to said translation module, said ATM card is a line

card, said MPLS card is a line card, said MPLS card providing an interface for said MPLS network and said MPLS card transmitting said MPLS frame over said MPLS network.

19. (Previously Presented) A translation module of a network element as claimed in claim 18, wherein said network element transmits said MPLS frame over said MPLS network through a label switched path and said another transmission parameter is inserted in an experimental field of said MPLS frame.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) A translation module of a network element as claimed in claim [[21]] 19, wherein said label switched path is an experimental inferred per hop behaviour label switched path (E-LSP).

23. (Currently Amended) A translation module of a network element as claimed in claim [[14]] 27, wherein said second communication network is a MPLS network, said second transmission protocol is a MPLS transmission protocol, said second data element is a MPLS ~~frame~~ frame, said first communication network is an ATM network, said first transmission protocol is an ATM transmission protocol, each of said at least one first data element is an ATM cell, said second parameter indicates drop precedence for said ATM cell, said another transmission parameter indicates drop precedence for said MPLS frame, said MPLS frame is provided to said MPLS network for transmission through a label inferred per hop behaviour label switched path (L-LSP) and said another transmission parameter is inserted in an experimental field of said MPLS frame.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of formatting a MPLS packet to support a quality of service (QoS) parameter related to [[an]] at least one ATM cell when said MPLS packet is transmitted on a MPLS communication network, said method comprising:

mapping said QoS parameter to a class of service value for a MPLS connection for said MPLS packet;

mapping said class of service value to another parameter indicating a quality of service provisioning for said MPLS communication network;

inserting said class of service value into a experimental field of a header of said MPLS packet; and

inserting contents of said ATM cell in said MPLS packet,

wherein said QoS parameter indicates drop precedence for the at least one ATM cell and the another parameter further indicates drop precedence for said second data element in said MPLS communication network, said drop precedence of said at least one ATM cell utilizes a value of drop precedence for each of said at least one ATM cell, and said QoS parameter includes a priority rating for the at least one ATM cell and at least one of a service category, cell loss ratio and cell delay variation.

25. (Currently Amended) A method of routing [[an]] at least one ATM cell through a MPLS network, said method comprising:

mapping a quality of service (QoS) parameter related to the at least one ATM cell to a class of service value for a MPLS connection for said MPLS network;

mapping said class of service value to another parameter indicating a quality of service provisioning for said MPLS communication network;

creating a MPLS packet;

inserting class of service value into a experimental field of a header of said MPLS packet;

inserting contents of said at least one ATM cell in said MPLS packet;

routing said MPLS packet through one or more router in said MPLS communication network according to contents of said another parameter,

wherein

said QoS parameter indicates drop precedence for the at least one ATM cell and the another parameter further indicates drop precedence for said second data element in said MPLS network, said drop precedence of said at least one ATM cell utilizes a value of drop precedence for each of said at least one ATM cell, and said QoS parameter

includes a priority rating for the at least one ATM cell and at least one of a service category, cell loss ratio and cell delay variation; and

said contents of said another parameter specify experimental (EXP) inferred label switched path scheduling treatment and drop precedence treatment.

26. (New) A method of translating at least one QoS parameter as claimed in claim 2, wherein said at least one QoS parameter includes at least one of ATM service category, cell loss ratio and cell delay variation.

27. (New) A translation module of a network element as claimed in claim 13, wherein said at least one QoS parameter includes at least one of ATM service category, cell loss ratio and cell delay variation.

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